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June 22, 1961

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[redacted]

Dear Art,

I would like to take this opportunity to pass along some information we have received from the field where one of our test Model 1 Incinerators is located. This installation is "B" on the chart I passed along to you previously.

Essentially this is the information I received:

"1. For the record we wish to emphasize the fact that the air fed incinerator installed at our location is one of the most useful pieces of equipment presently being used here. Its utility and the benefits derived by us far outweigh the shortcomings of the apparatus. These shortcomings will be the subject of this paper. The fact that we can now perform the destruction of classified waste without having to leave the vault area has considerably relieved the apprehension with which we contemplated the possibility of having to destroy all classified matter under emergency conditions. The routine daily destruction of classified waste has also ceased to be a matter of concern since its destruction no longer involves the physical movement of classified paper through eight stories and to the roof of the building. The classified paper destruction facilities located on the roof, locally designed and constructed, leave much to be desired.

2. The stack opening of the incinerator points in a northern direction, an exact 340 degree bearing. We have constant afternoon prevailing winds from a northeasterly direction whose velocity averages between 10 to 15 knots. In our location we have to perform all the classified matter destruction after 1800 hours which means that as the fan is stopped, even with the damper closed, the wind has enough intensity to drive the ashes through the incinerator door and into the vault.

3. The following observations may be of some use to you in evaluating the performance of the device:

a. 50 cycle current: This location has 50 cycle current consequently the motor driven fan has never operated at the speed for which it was designed. The inability of the

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motor to deliver the required amount of air into the device to maintain a cyclone effect is, in our opinion, the principal factor for the accumulation of ashes in the incinerator. We are under the impression that no ashes remain when the incinerator is operating at its maximum efficiency.

b. Elevation: We are located at an elevation of over [redacted] At this altitude the device suffers from a lack of oxygen or at least its performance is further hampered from what it would be at sea level. 25X1

c. Prevailing winds: As previously mentioned, the stack of the incinerator opens into a 340° bearing almost directly into a prevailing wind that averages 10 to 15 knots. This factor is another handicap that an already slow revolving fan has to further overcome in order to supply enough air to assure an intense fire.

d. Bigger fan: As you already know a substitution was made of a fan bigger than the one originally shipped with the device, but the shift did not improve the efficiency of the incinerator to any great degree. Prolonged use of the incinerator has demonstrated that the fan shift placed an additional load on the motor with adverse effects.

e. Motor Overheating: As stated in sub-paragraph d, above, the bigger fan has placed an additional load on the motor, without any appreciable effect on air movement. We have seriously considered (1) reinstalling the smaller fan or (2) installing a bigger capacity motor. This has not been done because of doubts that we have enough technical know-how to accomplish such an operation without affecting the balance of the motor/fan coupling. The present motor/fan combination has a tendency to overheat the motor. In a prolonged emergency run it is doubtful that the motor would survive the length of time required to liquidate all classified matter.

f. Burning rate: The burning rate of the device does not even approach the performance you have claimed for it. We have tried to burn bound files with little or no success. Even unbound material has a tendency to mat together at the bottom of the incinerator which necessitates the use of a poker to spread the material and insure a complete destruction of material.

g. Line Voltage: The 220 volt line that nurtures the incinerator actually delivers 205 volts.

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4. We have been considering the idea of taking advantage of a natural current of air in speeding up the operation of the device by installing an air intake duct as shown in the sketch attached herewith.

5. Your comments on the contents of this correspondence would be appreciated."

Well, as you see, I will have to make some comments and answer these people. I would like to coordinate this answer with you and the boys after you have had a chance to digest it. Personally, I think it is an excellent commentary and very beneficial. Actually there isn't too much we didn't sort of expect.

Art, I am also including with this letter a copy of our specifications for the fabrication, assembly, and inspection and packaging of the Model 1 Incinerator. The thermofax page is the idea proposed in the text (paragraph 4) of the information I sent you. The specification copy is for your retention.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

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Attachments:
Spec No 354
One drawing

AIA:mt

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